

cost of \$13,601,000 and design cost of \$7,095,000 were previously authorized), a prospectus for which is attached to, and included in, this resolution.

*Provided*, That any design shall, to the maximum extent possible incorporate shared or collegial space, consistent with efficient court operations that will minimize the size and cost of the building to be constructed.

*Provided further*, That any design shall incorporate changes in the 1997 United States Courts Design Guide, including the implementation of a policy on shared courtrooms.

ADDITIONAL SITE AND DESIGN—UNITED STATES COURTHOUSE, AUSTIN, TX

*Resolved by the Committee on Transportation and Infrastructure of the U.S. House of Representatives*, That pursuant to 40 U.S.C. §3307, additional appropriations are authorized for construction of a 229,483 gross square foot United States Courthouse including 65 parking spaces, located in Austin, Texas, at an additional site cost of \$3,000,000 and additional design cost of \$759,000 (site cost of \$9,000,000 and design cost of \$4,809,000 were previously authorized), a prospectus for which is attached to, and included in, this resolution.

*Provided*, That any design shall, to the maximum extent possible incorporate shared or collegial space, consistent with efficient court operations that will minimize the size and cost of the building to be constructed.

*Provided further*, That any design shall incorporate changes in the 1997 United States Courts Design Guide, including the implementation of a policy on shared courtrooms.

SITE—UNITED STATES COURTHOUSE, SAN ANTONIO, TX

*Resolved by the Committee on Transportation and Infrastructure of the U.S. House of Representatives*, That pursuant to 40 U.S.C. §3307, appropriations are authorized for site acquisition for a 377,691 gross square foot United States Courthouse including 37 inside parking spaces, located in San Antonio, Texas, at a site acquisition cost of \$18,000,000, a prospectus for which is attached to, and included in, this resolution.

*Provided*, That any design shall, to the maximum extent possible incorporate shared or collegial space, consistent with efficient court operations that will minimize the size and cost of the building to be constructed.

*Provided further*, That any design shall incorporate changes in the 1997 United States Courts Design Guide, including the implementation of a policy on shared courtrooms.

ADDITIONAL CONSTRUCTION—UNITED STATES COURTHOUSE, RICHMOND, VA

*Resolved by the Committee on Transportation and Infrastructure of the U.S. House of Representatives*, That pursuant to 40 U.S.C. §3307, additional appropriations of \$7,403,000 are authorized for construction of a 346,000 gross square foot United States Courthouse including 64 inside parking spaces, located in Richmond, Virginia, including additional design cost of \$516,000, additional management and inspection cost of \$295,000, and additional estimated construction cost of \$6,592,000, for an estimated total project cost of \$102,476,000 (site cost of \$13,054,000, design cost of \$5,490,000, construction cost of \$71,722,000, and management and inspection cost of \$4,807,000 were previously authorized), a prospectus for which is attached to, and included in, this resolution.

*Provided*, That any design shall, to the maximum extent possible incorporate shared or collegial space, consistent with efficient court operations that will minimize the size and cost of the building to be constructed.

*Provided further*, That any design shall incorporate changes in the 1997 United States

Courts Design Guide, including the implementation of a policy on shared courtrooms.

There was no objection.

REPORT ON H.R. 5006, DEPARTMENTS OF LABOR, HEALTH AND HUMAN SERVICES, AND EDUCATION, AND RELATED AGENCIES APPROPRIATIONS ACT, 2005

Mr. YOUNG of Florida, from the Committee on Appropriations, submitted a privileged report (Rept. No. 108-636) on the bill (H.R. 5006) making appropriations for the Departments of Labor, Health and Human Services, and Education, and related agencies for the fiscal year ending September 30, 2005, and for other purposes, which was referred to the Union Calendar and ordered to be printed.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Pursuant to clause 1, rule XXI, all points of order are reserved on the bill.

THE HOME-STRETCH AGENDA

(Mr. DELAY asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute and to revise and extend his remarks.)

Mr. DELAY. Mr. Speaker, as we return this week for the home stretch of the 108th Congress, it bears repeating that our focus for the remainder of this legislative session will be the same focus we have had for the last 2 years: growing our economy, defending our national security, and protecting the American family.

The first order of business will be reforming the way that we secure our homeland in the wake of the 9/11 Commission's investigation. When the commission released its report, many rushed to either condemn or rubber stamp its conclusions, but we in the majority took a very novel approach: we actually read them. Six committees held more than 20 hearings on the report's findings and are now in the process of developing a comprehensive 9/11 Commission Implementation Act.

Considering the opportunity that the 9/11 Commission has given us, Congress cannot in good conscience satisfy itself with a watered-down, politically-convenient bill that just Scotch-tapes over a few vulnerabilities.

We are the first Congress elected after 9/11, and we were elected specifically to make the difficult, but necessary, choices to protect our constituents. That is exactly what a comprehensive 9/11 Commission Implementation Act will force us to do, and I hope everyone on both sides of the aisle will rise to the occasion and support its passage.

Secondly, Mr. Speaker, Congress cannot adjourn before we finish our work protecting American families from the snap-back tax hikes that many Democrats hope to foist upon our economy before they skip town. Unless Congress acts, the marriage penalty will return, the \$1,000 per child tax credit will disappear, and the expanded 10 percent

tax bracket will shrink, representing a massive tax hike targeted directly at married couples, parents and working families, just in time for the holidays; and we will not let that happen.

Over the last 2 years, the economy has rebounded from recession, corporate scandals and terrorism; 144,000 more new jobs were created just last month, 1.7 million more since last August.

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Congress did not create this growth; the American people did. Our job now, as they build our economy to ever loftier heights, is to stay out of their way and not spend too much of their money while we are at it.

Toward that end, this week, the House will continue to work on Federal spending bills for 2005, according to the common-sense budget that the House passed this spring.

Our goals for the next several weeks are clear, and as far as our Nation has come in these last 2 years, we owe it to the American people to work as they have to protect our homeland, our economy, and our families.

HIKE IN MEDICARE PREMIUMS

(Mr. PALLONE asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute and to revise and extend his remarks.)

Mr. PALLONE. Mr. Speaker, last Thursday, President Bush promised in his convention acceptance speech to honor America's seniors by giving them immediate help. The very next day, his administration announced the largest Medicare premium increase in the program's history.

This year most Medicare beneficiaries paid \$66 a month for physician services. Thanks to the President's action, these monthly premiums will rise more than 17 percent, forcing seniors with tight incomes to fork over about \$78 per month.

Now, President Bush tried to blame the premium hike on rising health care costs, but he ignores the fact that the Medicare bill he and Republicans fought so hard to make law is also responsible for these record increases. That is because the law gives insurers billions of dollars as an enticement to keep seniors on their rolls.

Seniors deserve better than the treatment they are receiving from President Bush and congressional Republicans. Democrats continue to support a prescription drug law that would provide meaningful assistance without forcing up Medicare premiums.

HONORING SECOND LIEUTENANT JAMES MICHAEL GOINS

(Mr. BOOZMAN asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute and to revise and extend his remarks.)

Mr. BOOZMAN. Mr. Speaker, I rise today in honor of one of America's

bravest, Second Lieutenant James Michael Goins, a Carroll County, Arkansas, native who was recently killed in action in Iraq.

Michael, a member of the Army's 2nd Battalion, 12th Cavalry Regiment, was killed on August 15 when a militia member in Najaf attacked his tank.

By all accounts, Michael was not only a great soldier, but also a model citizen. He was high school valedictorian, captain of his high school football and basketball teams, and a recipient of the National Military Scholar Award, an honor going to only 10 percent of the ROTC cadets in the Nation.

He carried himself in a manner that earned praise and admiration from every person he touched. His ROTC professor called Michael the "finest soldier" he "has ever known" and his high school basketball coach said he "learned more about life" from Michael than he gave Michael.

Michael always wanted to be a soldier. Almost immediately upon earning his officer's commission, he selflessly put himself in harm's way in a country far away so that we could live free of terror here at home.

Mr. Speaker, Second Lieutenant James Michael Goins made the ultimate sacrifice for his country. He is a true American hero. I ask my colleagues to keep Michael's family and friends in their thoughts and prayers during these difficult times.

#### TERROR ATTACKS IN RUSSIA PART OF GLOBAL WAR ON TERROR

(Mr. WILSON of South Carolina asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute and to revise and extend his remarks.)

Mr. WILSON of South Carolina. Mr. Speaker, last week the world watched in horror as militant terrorists murdered hundreds of Russian schoolchildren. No one can doubt that we are in a full-scale global war on terror. Since September 11, the terrorists have attacked in Tunis, Karachi, Bali, Jakarta, Casablanca, Bombay, Mombassa, Najaf, Riyadh, Baghdad, Istanbul, Madrid, and continued the campaign of terror against Israel.

As British Prime Minister Tony Blair has stated, the world was transformed on September 11. We can no longer simply grieve for the victims of these evil acts; we must join together and defeat the terrorists before they can strike again. This is why President George W. Bush has brought together allies to liberate millions from terrorist-sponsoring regimes in Afghanistan and Iraq. Together with our allies, we are making major arrests of terrorists throughout the world, cutting off their financial assets, and increasing our intelligence capabilities.

We must realize that this war cannot be won overnight. It requires perseverance and steadfastness. Yet, in the end, freedom and liberty will triumph over extremist hatred.

In conclusion, may God bless our troops, and we will never forget September 11.

#### U.S. ECONOMY KEEPS ON GROWING AND CREATING NEW JOBS

(Mrs. MILLER of Michigan asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute and to revise and extend her remarks.)

Mrs. MILLER of Michigan. Mr. Speaker, the U.S. economy keeps on growing and creating new jobs. Last month alone, 144,000 new jobs were created. But if one were to listen to Senator JOHN KERRY, one would think we were in the middle of another Great Depression.

The U.S. economy has created jobs in each of the last 12 months for a total of nearly 1.7 million new jobs. The unemployment rate has fallen to 5.4 percent, which is about the same as in 1996 when President Bill Clinton was running for reelection. And thanks to the leadership of our great President George W. Bush and the majority of the Republicans in Congress, our economy is strong and getting stronger.

Senator KERRY, while flip-flopping on a variety of issues, has been remarkably consistent on one issue, and that one issue is raising taxes. Higher taxes on hard-working Americans and job providers have never created a job or helped a family meet its needs.

My message to Senator KERRY is we have turned the corner toward a progrowth, projob, profamily economy, and we are not turning back.

#### WEEKLY AWARD FOR WORST EXAMPLE OF BIASED LIBERAL MEDIA REPORT

(Mr. SMITH of Texas asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute and to revise and extend his remarks.)

Mr. SMITH of Texas. Mr. Speaker, The New York Times has repeatedly hammered Republicans for their get-out-the-vote efforts involving churches, going so far as to suggest that their tax-exempt status should be questioned. One reporter, David D. Kilpatrick, has written four stories on this topic in the past few months, implying that Republicans' relationship with churches somehow is improper. Yet when former President Bill Clinton recently gave a politically motivated anti-Republican speech at the Riverside Church in New York City, the Times was not concerned.

As the election draws near, the liberal bias of the media continues to grow worse. The American people deserve to hear balanced and factual news.

Beginning next week and continuing until the November elections, I will announce a weekly award for the worst example of a biased liberal media report, whether print or electronic.

#### EMERGENCY DISASTER FUNDS NECESSARY FOR FLORIDA

(Mr. YOUNG of Florida asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute and to revise and extend his remarks.)

Mr. YOUNG of Florida. Mr. Speaker, when natural disasters occur around the world, or especially in the United States, we respond. But of all of these natural disasters that we have experienced, seldom has an entire State been affected. But thanks to tropical storm Bonnie, Hurricane Charley, and Hurricane Frances, every section of Florida has been affected.

President Bush, Governor Bush, Mike Brown, the Director of FEMA, and our State and local emergency responders have done an outstanding job, and the people of Florida have done an outstanding job in beginning to put their lives back together. But today FEMA, who handles our disaster funding, is running out of money, and by midnight tonight their funds will be exhausted.

I have introduced a supplemental bill, as requested by the President, and, hopefully, we can pass it here in the House this afternoon, and the Senate will be able to take it up later this evening. It is important because FEMA is out of money. It is important to make sure that everybody knows that this is not going to be the total cost. This is just emergency funding to keep the cash flowing to those disaster areas in my State of Florida.

#### ANNOUNCEMENT BY THE SPEAKER PRO TEMPORE

The SPEAKER pro tempore (Mr. PENCE). Pursuant to clause 8 of rule XX, the Chair will postpone further proceedings today on motions to suspend the rules on which a recorded vote or the yeas and nays are ordered or on which the vote is objected to under clause 6 of rule XX.

RECORD votes on postponed questions will be taken after 6:30 p.m. today.

#### GUARDIANS OF FREEDOM MEMORIAL POST OFFICE BUILDING

Mrs. MILLER of Michigan. Mr. Speaker, I move to suspend the rules and pass the bill (H.R. 4442) to designate the facility of the United States Postal Service located at 1050 North Hills Boulevard in Reno, Nevada, as the "Guardians of Freedom Memorial Post Office Building" and to authorize the installation of a plaque at such site, and for other purposes.

The Clerk read as follows:

H.R. 4442

*Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives of the United States of America in Congress assembled,*

#### SECTION 1. DESIGNATION OF GUARDIANS OF FREEDOM MEMORIAL POST OFFICE BUILDING.

(a) DESIGNATION.—The facility of the United States Postal Service located at 1050 North Hills Boulevard in Reno, Nevada, shall be known and designated as the "Guardians of Freedom Memorial Post Office Building".